

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) An epitaxial growth method comprising:

growing an epitaxial layer on a layered substrate,

wherein the layered substrate comprises sapphire on silicon and the epitaxial layer

comprises group III nitrides, and

the epitaxial layer is grown on the opposite side of the sapphire from that of the silicon

layer.

12-23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously presented) The epitaxial growth method of claim 11 further comprising

the step of removing the layered substrate after growing the epitaxial layer.

25. (Previously presented) The epitaxial growth method of claim 24 wherein the step of

removing comprises mechanical polishing.

26. (Previously presented) The epitaxial growth method of claim 11 wherein a process of

forming said layered substrate includes a heating step, wherein said layered substrate exhibits the

bowing after being cooled down from said heating step.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously presented) The epitaxial growth method of claim 11, wherein the

thickness of the silicon is less than 6 microns, the thickness of the epitaxial layer is less than 3

microns and the wafer bowing is less than 0.5 m^{-1} .

29. (Previously presented) The epitaxial growth method of claim 11, wherein the thickness of the silicon is from 2 to 10 microns, the thickness of the epitaxial layer is from 3 to 10 microns and the wafer bowing is less than 0.5 m^{-1} .

30. (Previously presented) The epitaxial growth method of claim 11, wherein the thickness of the silicon is from 20 to 30 microns, the thickness of the epitaxial layer is from 40 to 60 microns and the wafer bowing is less than 0.5 m^{-1} .

31. (Currently amended) An epitaxial growth method comprising the step of:
growing an epitaxial layer on a layered substrate, wherein the layered substrate comprising sapphire on silicon exhibits bowing in a convex manner,
wherein the epitaxial layer is grown on the opposite side of the sapphire from that of the silicon layer, and

flattening the epitaxial layer having a III-V nitrides alloy and the layered substrate ~~after~~
by growing the epitaxial layer is grown on the layered substrate.

32. (Previously presented) The epitaxial growth method of claim 31, wherein
an AlN buffer layer is grown on the layered substrate prior to growing the epitaxial layer thereon, and
the AlN buffer layer is grown at a temperature lower than that of the epitaxial layer.